

# Shimer College Bulletin

March, 1976

Mt. Carroll, Ill. 61053





**Shimer College**  
**Mount Carroll**  
**Illinois 61053**

Non-Profit Organization  
Permit No. 40  
Mount Carroll, Ill.  
BULK RATE PD.

## Do We Get Through?

The *Shimer College Bulletin* is currently on a quarterly publication schedule with issues in September, December, March and June. This frequency may be changed in the next few months due to postal regulations. For the present, however, the Alumni Office is making every effort to provide continuous and accurate delivery of each issue during the month of publication. Please notify this Office of any irregularity in delivery frequency as well as address changes so that we can maintain a correct mailing list for the *Bulletin*.

Delivery of Bulk Rate mail often takes two to three weeks.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

### MARRIAGES

Roxana Johnson, '65, was married in Beverly Hills to Michael Guthrie. Roxana received a degree from International school in Geneva, Switzerland.

Carolyn May, '68, was married to Stanley Koper. They reside in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Leslie Luchene, '73, and Michael Gans, AB '74, were married in April 1974. They reside in Maplewood, Missouri. Michael is a second-year law student and Leslie is completing her undergraduate studies at Washington University.

### DEATHS

Lute Fraser, '01, from Lomita, California, died in September of 1973.

Pearl Schaut, '07, from Mount Carroll, Illinois, died in 1975.

Edythe Kingery Freeman, '13, from Mount Carroll, Illinois, died in 1975.

Gail Hubbell Lottinville, '23, from Kankakee, Illinois, died on December 3, 1974.

Gladys Evelyn Senn, '29, died on Christmas Day 1975. A former resident of Chicago Heights, Illinois, she lived in Springfield, Pennsylvania, for a number of years.

Laura Byers Wirtjes, '32, from Shannon, Illinois, died in 1975.

Judy Lambie Rittenberry, '34, from Amarillo, Texas, deceased March 18, 1975.

Wanda Phillips Decker, '44, from Roselle, Illinois, deceased 1975.

### BIRTHS

A son, Adam, to Gerald and Myma Spilky Poticha, '65, on October 25, 1975. Adam is their third child.

### CLASS NOTES

Margaret Munger Davis, '29, was recently honored with a concert of her compositions in Pontiac, MI. Mrs. Davis has composed many pieces, mostly of a religious nature. She won a place in the Shimer Hall of Fame for writing the score for the official school song in 1929. The words for the "Shimer Song" were written by Roberta Leland Raynour, '30. The two women still maintain an active correspondence.

Mrs. Davis writes: "Having had a lot of piano work at Chicago's American Conservatory as a child and later while I attended Northwestern University — it was between these two periods of time that I studied at Shimer with Miss Elizabeth Schuster and Marguerite Allen who inspired this urge to write. . . . Thank you for helping me feel that it's all been worth the effort."

Currently some Shimer music students are studying Mrs. Davis' music to determine the feasibility of a Homecoming performance.

Donna Pinnell Gabriel, AB '42, was appointed to serve a three-year term on the Funeral Directors licensing board in Iowa on July 1, 1975. She is the first lady member on a five-member board. Donna has the responsibility of developing a fifteen-hour program of continuing education for Funeral Directors.

Janet Fritz Green, AB '44, is living in Wheaton with her husband, Allen S. Green, in a newly-built combination townhouse and office.

Allan C. Brandt, AB '65, received his Master of Science in Corrections from Chicago State University on January 10, 1976.

Rabbi Philip J. Bentley, AB '66, and his family moved to Curacao, Netherland Antilles, in the summer of 1975, to serve the Congregation Mikve Israel-Emanuel. In a recent letter, he writes, "My work with this unusual congregation/community is interesting and challenging. If anyone wishes to reach me they may write to me at P.O. Box 322, Curacao, Netherland Antilles. We would like to hear from Shimer people including those who plan on stopping over here on vacation or cruises."

Ken Friedman, '66, visited the campus in February and engaged in dialogue with members of the student body and members of the faculty.

Since he received his MA from San Francisco University he has been involved in several literary and artistic endeavors. He has written five books and has had ten one-man art shows throughout the country.

Ken welcomes letters from Shimer friends. His address is 6361 Elmhurst Drive, San Diego, California 92120.

Ann Weiser, '67, received her PhD from the University of Chicago in December. Her dissertation was called, "Conversational Strategems." Ann is presently teaching at the Purdue University in W. Lafayette, Indiana.

Dan Casing, AB '67, is the principle at Tiskilwa High School in Tiskilwa, Illinois.

Grace Baldwin, AB '68, Research Fellow in the Pulmonary Division at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, received a Maurice S. Segal Pulmonary Fellowship. As a Segal Fellow, Grace intends to pursue investigative work in pulmonary disease. She is a graduate of the Medical College of Pennsylvania and did her internship and residency in Medicine at St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Allen Stone, '71, is living in a loft in downtown Boston and selling painting by commission.

Richard Chambelain, AB '74, is the head of the Photo Department at the Parer School of Art in Hampden, Connecticut.



# Statement From The Editor Investing In The Future

In a recent private study entitled "Giving in America" the philanthropic tendencies of our nation are explored and trends are identified. In recent years private colleges have undergone a drastic reversal in those public trends that once created them and provided for them. Since 1969 some 150 private colleges have closed their doors. Shimer College was almost one of those casualties.

The study points out that, more than any other country in the world, Americans believe in providing privately controlled and voluntarily supported social institutions and that they do so through a broad based and deeply ingrained sense of philanthropy. The factors which have affected giving to private colleges including Shimer are many and varied. Costs of higher education in the ten year period from 1963-64 to 1973-74 rose 76% as compared with 49% for the economy-wide cost-of-living index. The "purchasing power" of the giving in that same period did not keep pace. And, of course, private colleges are looking for support from a constituency that is being constantly approached by a larger number of new and less traditional privately supported organizations. Thus, since 1960, the proportion of all institutions of higher learning that are private has gone from two thirds to one half.

In viewing these trends it becomes clear that the severest deterioration in giving is suffered by the liberal arts college. One commission's study went so far as to point out, "to talk of the liberal arts college's disappearance . . . is not to indulge in idle speculation." The question becomes one of financial support. Shimer is by no means an exception to this trend. Over the past ten years the total number of alumni giving to the College has dropped from 15% to 7.65% (see the Alumni Fund article in this issue).

Do liberal arts colleges deserve to survive? This is a question that has surfaced repeatedly in recent years. It is a question that many of us try to put out of our minds as we seek solutions to the dilemma we are facing; yet it is a question we are repeatedly forced to respond to. We must consider the relative advantages of private versus public institutions; of liberal learning versus specialized training; of distinctive curricula versus course load formulae; of small class size versus lecture hall assemblies. The relative disadvantages exist as well: fewer facilities, fewer faculty specialists, less research, smaller libraries. These disadvantages reflect the financial drains on a small private liberal arts institution in a seemingly endless and vicious circle.

The liberal arts college has placed a greater emphasis on its constituencies (the faculty, students, alumni, and trustees) to alleviate these problems through student recruitment, fund raising, and approaches to the government for altered priorities with regard to public monies.

Shimer College is one such institution where more attention has, by necessity, gone into fund raising. We are limited by our size and financial means from providing a great deal of direction for our

constituencies in these areas. Yet the very limitation of size reflects our claim to the right of survival in a drastically changing society. Practically everyone agrees that we should survive, but the odds we face are tremendous. We are in a period of transition from survival to stability as we realize that only the most stable of institutions will withstand the current and future challenges and demands made of them: one must have the appearance of stability in order to attract the means of survival.

It is for these reasons that Shimer must prove itself worthy of the dwindling philanthropic dollar while providing a social service that may be headed for extinction. Our future must move from the realm of "idle speculation" to a very real concern for the future of a special private institution in need of an expanded base of voluntary support. The very nature of giving and of those institutions worthy of survival is at the heart of this concern.

Included in this issue of the *Bulletin* are various articles that deal with our transition to stability and to a more responsive nature toward the community around us. Our new Open Campus policy is unique and has received praise from many segments. It involves close to 5,000 people currently. Our administration has undergone a thorough restructuring in order to more effectively meet the demands made upon it. Our efforts to enhance communication have met with general approval; active interaction is on the rise.

These efforts are investments in the future rather than stop-gaps for the present. They are intended to enhance the stability and preserve the future of Shimer College. I continue to urge your support and interaction in these efforts and to retain a concern for the potential that this institution holds for our society.

Sincerely,  
Tim Cole, AB '75  
Editor

MARCH, 1976

## SHIMER COLLEGE BULLETIN

Timothy S. Cole, AB '75 ..... Editor  
Frances Kostarelos, Student ..... Assistant

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Please send all news, comments, inquiries and address changes to:

ALUMNI OFFICE  
SHIMER COLLEGE  
MOUNT CARROL, IL 61053

The cover photograph on this issue of the *Bulletin*, taken by Edward "Dunk" Eastham, '75, won First Place at Homecoming last May in a contest sponsored by the Admissions Department.

The subject of the photograph, Scott Ellsworth, fourth-year student from Palos Heights, IL, takes an icy spill into a river formed in the campus "golf course" by melting snow. Ah, springtime in Mount Carroll!



# STUDENT SERVICES INVOLVE ALUMNI

As the Office of Student Services expands in scope, it is attempting to offer career counseling and placement in permanent and summer jobs for Shimer students. Sandy Sakurai, Director of Student Services, has suggested that an ideal situation would be one where Shimer alumni, parents, and friends helped to place Shimer students and recent graduates in productive positions.

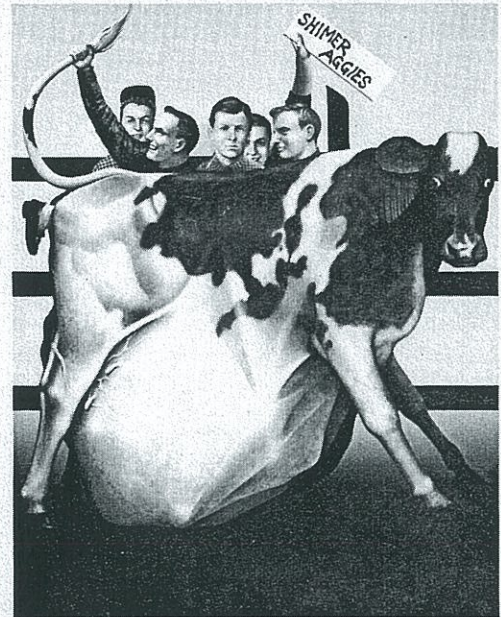
One of the real tests of a valuable education is the respect shown to those who have benefited from it. We believe that students in the Shimer experience have definite qualities that will make them exceptional contributors in today's society. For this reason the Office of Student Services and the Alumni Office will be making an effort to refer students to appropriate individuals for assistance in job placement. If you have openings or know of them in areas that may be of interest to Shimer students please contact the Office of Student Services or the Alumni Office.

\* \* \*

Another suggestion along these lines comes to us from a few alumni, many of whom own businesses or work for firms that can be of service to other alumni. In some cases alumni have been able to save money while helping one another by doing business together. In a minor way the Alumni Office can encourage this by referring people, but the real means for facilitating this form of business interaction is direct involvement; getting together with regional alumni groups or forming regional groups is the best way to meet your fellow alumni in order to share with them.

## Famous Collegiate Stunts and Pranks

No. 3 in a series.



March 11, 1949—Mt. Carroll, Illinois: At a fund-raising event for financially strapped Shimer Agricultural College, Shimer "Aggies" set a world's record for Most People in a Cow.

Illustrated by Wayne McLoughlin

Reprinted by permission of National Lampoon, Inc.

## Shimer Pranksters

### Were They Aggies or Baggies?

Last fall Shimer became the subject of a satirical piece of artwork in the National Lampoon magazine (right). Reacting to the piece, Shimer Board Chairman Barry Carroll, AB '66, wrote the following letter to the people at the Lampoon. Their Board Chairman responded in turn.

Incidentally, the artwork was done by a Mount Carroll resident, Wayne McLoughlin. He is a free lance artist whose wife, Jacqueline, is the daughter of alumna Beth Hostetter Waterman, '44.

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the Shimer community I take great umbrage at your recent feature under Famous Collegiate Stunts and Pranks.

- 1) Shimer is a liberal arts school of recognized excellence, whose graduates typically score on a par with Harvard graduates on the Graduate Record Examination. We have never been an agricultural college. Nor have we ever been known as the "Aggies."
- 2) In 1949 when the alleged prank took place, there were no men enrolled at Shimer even though you show five men participating in our prank. We have been coed since the mid 1950's.
- 3) We have never been able to get more than three Shimer girls in a cow.

In view of these inconsistencies, we would recommend that you send some of your people to Shimer for the education that they were supposed to get at Harvard.

Sincerely yours,  
Barry Carroll  
Chairman of the Board

Dear Barry:

Re your letter of October 7th, according to our research, you are incorrect. Reports we have received definitely indicate that it was five men and not three women who stuffed themselves in a cow in 1949 at Shimer. On checking, however, we do find that you were right about the nickname "Aggies." We erred on that one. We understand that the nickname was "Baggies," named after the cow who held the five students.

Not all the people who write and run the Lampoon went to Harvard. We cover an area as widespread as three universities in Canada, one in Brooklyn, one in Manhattan, two in Ohio and a number out West.

We ain't simply Eastern people!

Best wishes,  
The National Lampoon, Inc.  
Matty Simmons  
Chairman of the Board



# President's Report

## Conant Outlines Programs and Objectives

Shimer has weathered the most difficult period in its history and the future looks promising. It was apparent when I arrived last June that Shimer could survive only with an extraordinary effort and with some substantial reorganization. In September Ronald Goldblatt ('72) took over as Director of Admissions and proceeded to organize a staff entirely comprising recent graduates and present students. He has also put into place an entirely new admissions program which combines marketing practices with counseling services. Once a prospective student is identified, counselors advise him or her about the realities of the educational program and social life at the College so that a sound decision can be made both by the College and the student. The first results of the program bode well for the future: 41 students entered the College in the February term and for the first time in the history of the College, we had a net gain in enrollment at mid-year.

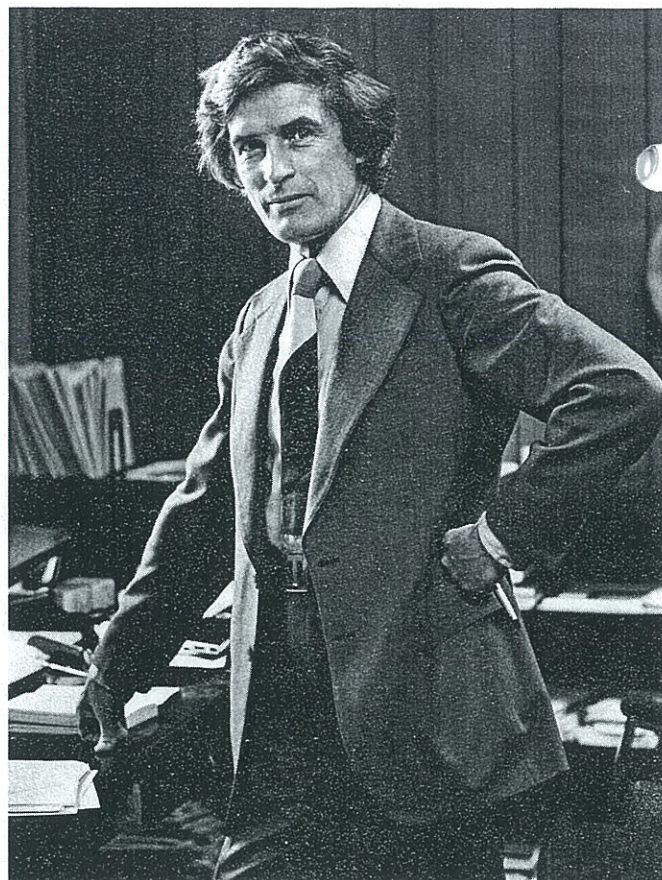
In November we appointed a new Director of College Development, Ms. Carol Lively, and a new Director of Public Relations, Brian David Boyer (former Shimerian) to assist me in the \$5 million endowment campaign, to help spread the word about Shimer's revival, and to assist in the daily task of raising current operating funds. Tim Cole remains in charge of alumni relations and in addition, has been appointed Assistant to the Director of College Development.

The comfort and welfare of our students is under the direction of Ms. Sandy Sakurai, whose responsibilities include food service, health services, counseling, the dormitories, cultural activities, and off-campus internships. It is our aim at the College to treat students as valued clients and to give them their money's worth in the basic services for which they have contracted here.

In January, after several months of frustrating effort to develop a fiscal plan and budget for the College, I appointed Matthew Czajkowski Executive Assistant and Acting Business Manager to develop fiscal and physical maintenance plans that will give us the basis for anticipating the present and future needs of the College. Ad hoc decision making is at an end. The Board of Trustees will have its first budget this month since November 10, 1973!

The College survived these past two and a half years out of sheer grit and determination; now the grit is being replaced with sound planning, confidence, and hard work. We intend to appoint a new Business Manager by the end of the summer when Mr. Czajkowski will return to his studies at Harvard College.

The future viability of the College depends 1) upon our success in meeting the operating budget through July of this year; 2) upon our ability to increase enrollment to the 225-250 range this coming fall; and



RALPH W. CONANT

3) our success in raising a \$5 million endowment over the next two years. The additional funds needed for operations through July are \$250,000. An enrollment of 250 in the fall will enable us to pay bills through the first semester, thus allowing greater freedom to work on the endowment.

Our biggest problem in enrollment is attrition. In recent years, less than 15% of entering classes have graduated from the four-year program. This is a startling figure and goes far to explain why the Trustees two years ago felt the College had to be closed. One of our strategies to stem attrition is to increase the faculty at a greater rate than is actually needed by the number of students enrolled, gambling that the richer the educational program, the more students will stay to see it through. Thus, one of our major endowment objectives is funds for additional faculty positions as well as faculty fellowships.

These are just a few of the developments of recent months and projections for the next few. I will attempt to keep you informed as we move ahead. I welcome suggestions and interaction both on the local level through the regional alumni groups and through my office here on the Mount Carroll campus.

In accordance with Title IX of the 1972 Federal Educational Amendments Act, Shimer College prohibits sex discrimination in all educational activities. Areas included are admissions, housing, athletics, course offerings and employment. There will be a self evaluation study made this spring under the direction of Sandra Sakurai, Director of Student Services, 815-244-2811, Ex. 50. A grievance procedure for faculty, students and employees is being formulated.



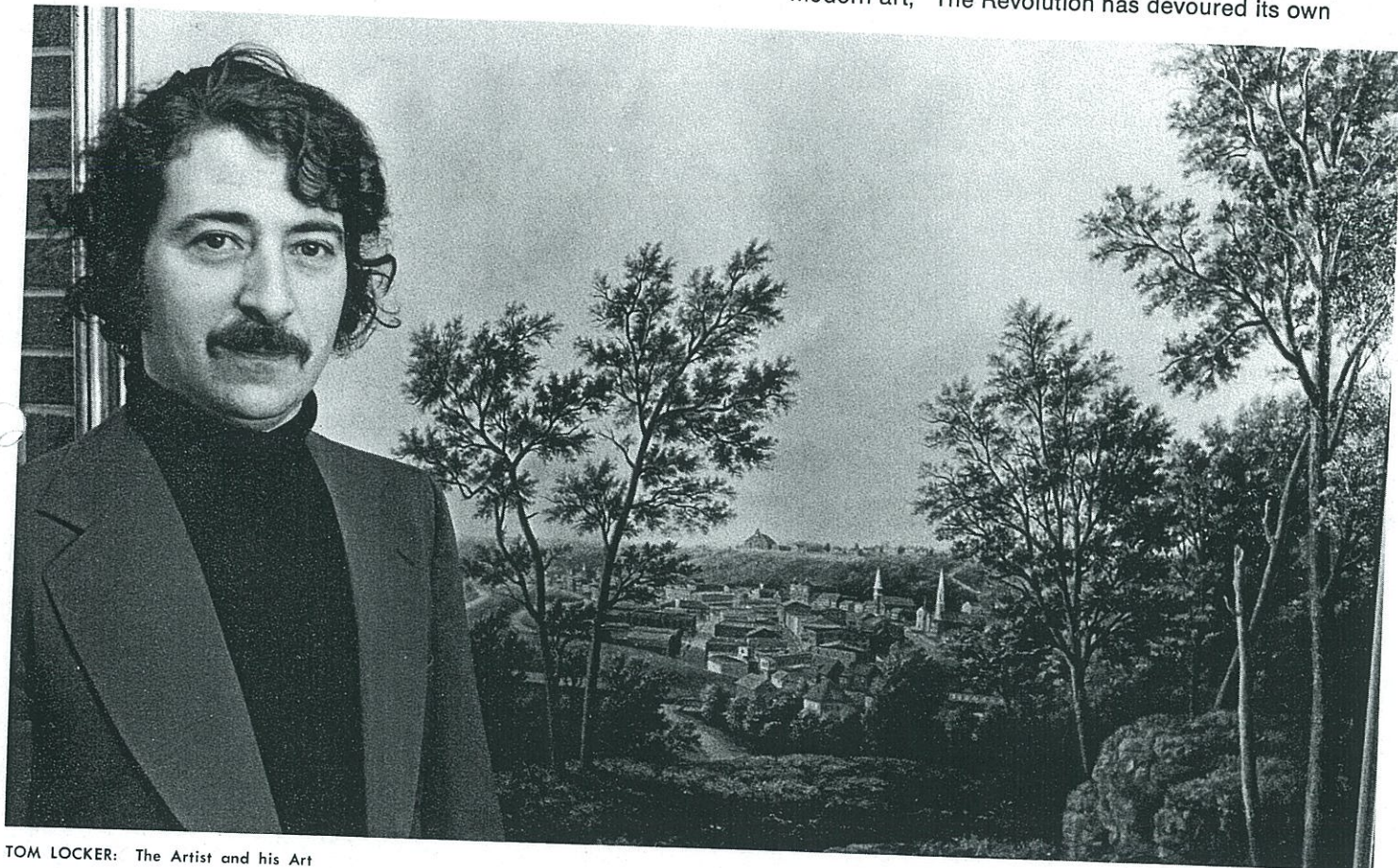
## Tom Locker Resident Artist Comments on "juggling act"

Tom Locker came to Shimer as a full-time professor from Franklin College, Franklin, IN, in 1969 after teaching there for seven years. He has subsequently reduced his teaching load and currently offers courses in Painting and Drawing. His paintings were featured recently at the Nuclear Power Conference held at Shimer where he sat on a panel of artists dealing with "Art and the Land."

Locker's art work has received widespread attention with his numerous exhibitions around the country and in England. Most recently Locker's work was displayed at the Oehlschlaeger Galleries in Chicago last November.

and sees the somewhat repetitious and persistent effort to solve a single problem over a period of years as the only way to gain the sense of mastery he considers essential to his art. And he has been rewarded; he feels "a definite sense of improvement." He claims that one has to have a specific style to survive in the market place, though this may be secondary to the accomplishment of successful work itself.

One may get the impression that Locker is reactionary in his ideas and his work. He would prefer to say "counter-revolutionary"; Locker claims that, in modern art, "The Revolution has devoured its own



TOM LOCKER: The Artist and his Art

A devoted and highly disciplined artist, Locker has found painting more time consuming, and would even like to paint full time if he could. Yet he enjoys teaching what he calls "19th century French academy drawing" — the fundamental skills of figure drawing. Comparing his experience in two different academic environments, Locker finds most art education disappointingly permissive. He feels that definite parameters are necessary, and the skills he teaches constitute "a basic grammar of art," true art, in the final analysis, is a "juggling act between control and imagination."

Locker considers himself less doctrinaire now in his teaching than earlier, but still insists on rigid and high standards in the classroom.

Concerning his own painting, Locker has been accused of overspecializing, and subsequently, of becoming redundant. Locker is a landscape painter,

children." Avante-garde art, he maintains, is "reductionistic." First it lost the illusion of deep space, then it relinquished its subject matter, and so on, until it became reminiscent of, as Locker puts it, "the emperor's new clothes."

Locker defines excellence "in relation to known norms" and feels he has gone beyond tradition as his work is more deeply saturated in color.

Asked about any changes he would make in the curriculum Locker maintains that art courses should be kept subservient to the general courses, but, especially if enrollment increased radically, that 1) a sculpture course should be offered, and 2) another painting teacher should be hired.

Locker is presently working on a new landscape in which he is grappling with the problem (among others) of the color of trees and field under the enigmatic light of impending storm clouds.



# New Director Leads Shimer From Survival To Stability

As anyone who has had contact with Shimer during the past few years knows, the overriding concern has been singular and well-defined: Survival. Indeed, the community's status has been such that the immediacy of keeping the College going has channeled all energies in that direction. The instinctive unity of faculty, students, administration, and friends have kept the financial burden from becoming fatal. It has only been within the past few months, however, that there has been a change from the low ebb of bare existence toward positive signs of life — and these have been dramatic.

The Nuclear Power Conference, International College, the proposed affiliation with the Goodman School of Drama, these are the overt manifestations of a change rooted in the inner workings of the



CAROL A. LIVELY

administration. Not surprisingly, it is President Conant who is responsible for fostering an attitude of growth and, most importantly, providing the organizational structure that makes possible the implementation of programs geared to establish a viable future for the College rather than continuation on an ad hoc basis.

Central to generating this new direction for Shimer is the recent creation of the Office of College Development. Originally the idea for such a department came in response to what Dr. Conant termed the "eerie consistency" with which his own personal efforts at fund raising met with a 10 to 1 contribution rate: "Individuals would promise \$1,000 and give \$100." The regional and Chicago campaigns met with only modest success, because, as is usual, everyone was hesitantly looking to everyone else to see who would contribute. The College's notoriety for the near default made potential benefactors question the institution's ability to provide a quality education. In short, few wanted to risk the association with an academic community that was on the brink of potentially backsliding into disaster.

Beginning in November, 1975, Conant sought a solution in the form of "an organized, people oriented, experienced, fund raiser and planner" whose responsibility it would be to attain an understanding of Shimer's philosophy and goals, evaluate new programs, and develop public presentations to stimulate interest on a regional and national scale. The possibility for maintaining the ongoing integrity of the College rested on switching from the politics of survival to policies of stability aimed at achieving flexible responses to internal needs and external pressures.

This formidable task was officially taken up on January 19 of this year by Ms. Carol Lively who is the only woman Director of Development of a four-year college in the United States. Ms. Lively was formerly assistant executive director of the Genesee, NY Region Health Planning Council. She and Dr. Conant met to join forces during 1968 to work on a political feasibility study for urban areas of western Massachusetts which laid the groundwork for negotiations concerning a planning agency responsible for all federal funds earmarked for health facilities. Like many people who become personally involved with Shimer, Carol left her position after visiting the campus. During the Festival of New Life and Dr. Conant's Inauguration she attended the discussion held in the Karyn Kupcinec Playhouse on "The Idea of Shimer" and was so impressed with the interaction of students, faculty, and alumni that she accepted the appointment immediately.

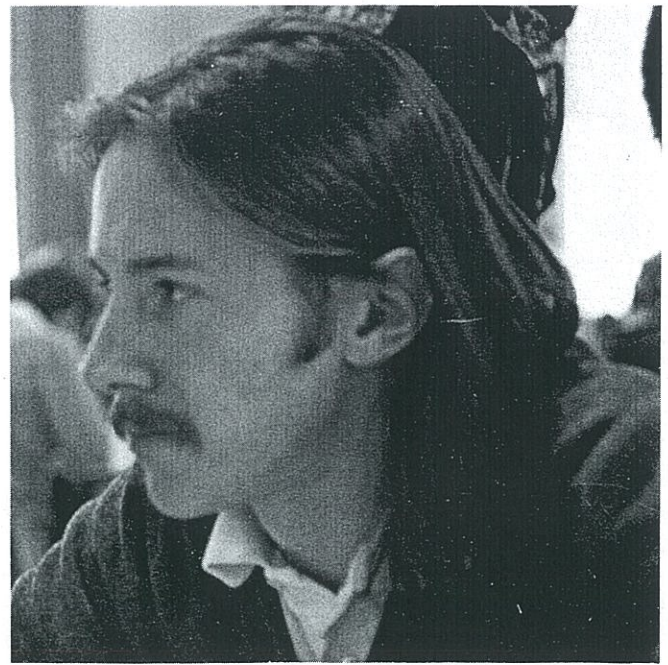
Carol's job necessitates skill in both the "Art of Grantsmanship," i.e., knowledge of federal grant application procedures and establishing government contacts to facilitate acceptance, and approaching businesses and corporations with a unique product — Shimer. In either instance her approach for obtaining badly needed funds is the same: "No is not an acceptable answer."

The emphasis of the Office of College Development is on fund raising and planning for the future of the College. This involves the areas of Public Relations, Alumni Relations, and a wide range of funding and special projects. It means the introduction and organization of innovative ideas such as the Nuclear Power Conference, International College, and the Goodman School of Drama and providing thorough Public Relations. This last aspect is under the direction of the new Director of Public Relations, Brian Boyer, '59. Ms. Lively points out that projects like the Open Campus policy (currently headed by Presidential Intern Dan Shiner) which allows the public use of our facilities generates interest and support for the College. Plans that enhance and project the internal well-being of the College Community are Carol's primary concern.

The Alumni Office has joined with the Office of College Development in this coordination of efforts. Tim Cole, AB '75, was appointed in February to work as Assistant to the Director of Development and Coordinator of Alumni Relations. Mr. Cole acknowledges that the function of the Alumni Office goes beyond fund raising and that the new association with the Office of College Development "will enhance our ability to communicate effectively and to provide a more complete interaction with alumni in the planning for the future of the College."



Whether or not we will realize President Conant's goal of "making Shimer one of the best known and toughest liberal arts colleges to get into within the next two years" depends greatly on Carol Lively and the Office of College Development. She has the responsibility of fusing pragmatic financial concerns with a true understanding of the institution and its objectives. One of the most concise statements of the Shimerian ethos came from Ms. Lively in response to her daughter's question, "How am I to decide what I will do in the future?" Ms. Lively replied, "Learn how to think and enjoy what you're learning. What you will do will evolve from that."



Pictured above is Matt Czajkowski, 26, a Harvard senior who has taken a leave of absence to spend the next six months revising office procedures and promoting modern accounting techniques in the Business Office. Matt was appointed by Dr. Conant to serve as Executive Assistant during the period of financial reorganization. Matt explains his style as "a Burkeian approach to the Business Office. Where old formulas work, we use them; where they don't, we innovate."

## Alumna Sends Painting, Poetry

The College has received an original painting by a 1918 alumna, Ruth Catron of New York City. The work, entitled "Reaching," was executed in 1975 for Shimer. It is a study in blues and golds of the New York skyline. Miss Catron explains, "It is a view from my front door, and shows the Empire State and N.Y. Life Insurance buildings illuminated by a setting sun and a vivid turquoise sky. It is physically and psychologically the most representative view of New York which I could find."

"Reaching" was displayed for a few months in the President's Office and currently it hangs in the Alumni Office. Miss Catron donated the painting as a gift to be sold, the proceeds going to the College Alumni Fund. It will be on display at Homecoming and may be sold at that time, although we are tempted to keep it for our offices.

Miss Catron, who considers herself "more of a poet than a painter," also sent samples of her poetry. The following example is one of her recent poems.

### *Reverberations*

*When I awake your name comes lilting  
To my mind, like birdsong on morning air.  
A vision of your face then comes tilting  
At my heart. Must I lose a love so fair?  
The very winds repeat your name to me,  
Echoing through the chambers of my heart.  
In waters your reflected face I see  
Ripple a smile — a frown at which I start!  
The sun burns into me with the same ardor  
As your glance, your kiss. Then with night's return,  
For your step, your voice, I listen harder —  
Longing flays me as for your arms I yearn,  
My ear, my heart, my mind await your call —  
'Tis still true, as of old, love conquers all.*

## Homecoming Set May 8-9

The Alumni Office and the Student Activities Committee have set May 8 as the date for the 1976 Homecoming and Fourth Annual Mayfair. Activities this year will be expanded to include two days of programs, outings, tournaments, workshops, banquets, and reunion.

In addition to the annual Awards Banquet and the spring carnival activities of the Mayfair, plans include an auction, a play, a golf tournament, a forum for alumni and students to discuss post-Shimer experiences, outings in the surrounding countryside, and seminars.

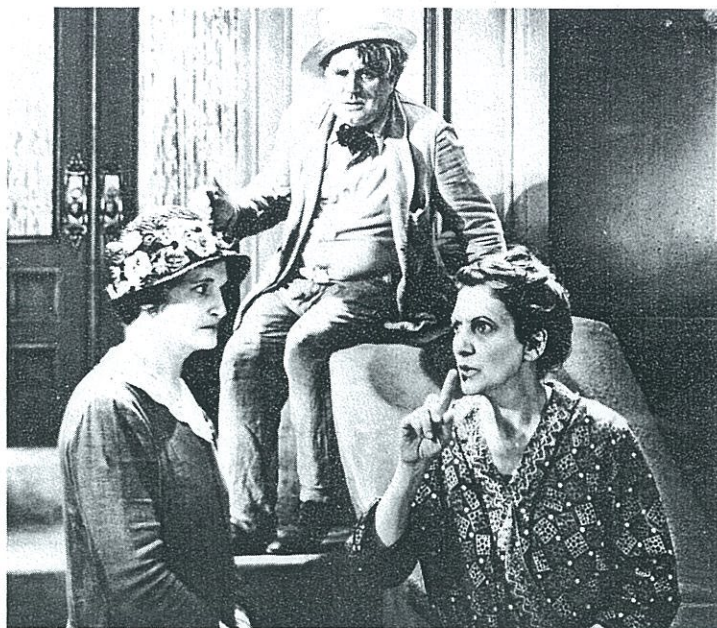
More specific information regarding the schedule, housing, and costs will be explained in a later mailing.



# Beulah Bondi Stars at Shimer Film Tribute

Beulah Bondi, '07, will be honored on the Shimer campus April 9, 10 and 11 with a three-day film tribute. Six movies in which Miss Bondi played significant roles will be featured. Miss Bondi will appear on campus to meet with groups of students and friends of the College. In addition, she will speak before the films commenting on her experiences in the industry and with the particular actors and directors of each film.

The movies that will be featured are: "Street Scene," 1931, "Make Way for Tomorrow," 1937, "Of Human Hearts," 1938, "On Borrowed Time," 1939, "Our Town," 1940, and "The Southerner," 1945. Along with these will be two television films of Miss Bondi's: a ninety-minute segment of "The Waltons," and a thirty-minute segment of "Dirty Sally."

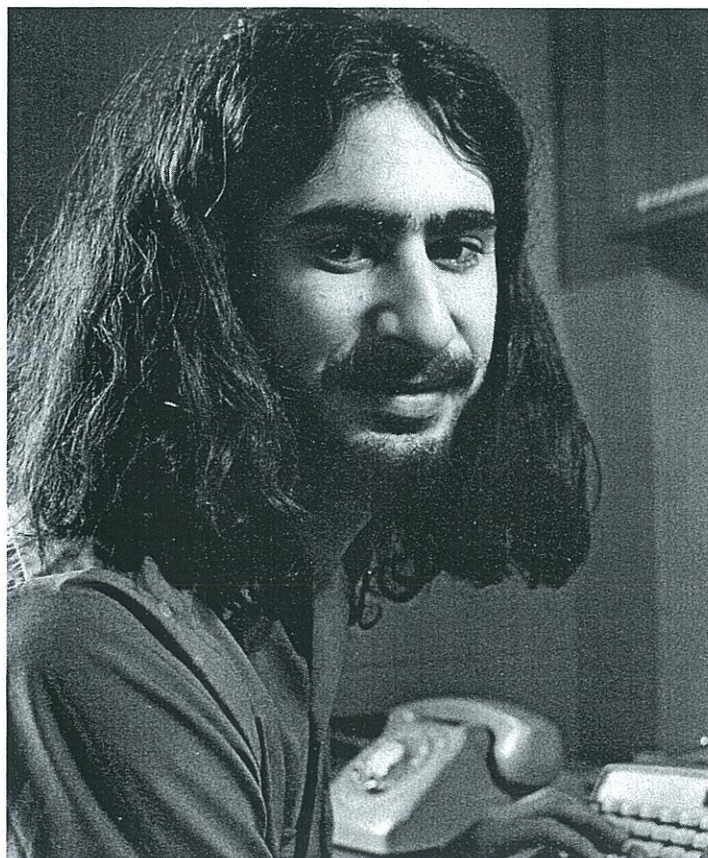


Beulah Bondi (right) in her first film, a 1931 production of "Street Scene." Miss Bondi portrays Emma Jones, a "malicious scandal monger of the tenement" in the film directed by King Vidor.

(Photographic stills and program notes were prepared for the film tribute by Anthony Slide of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.)

## Campus Open To Community Students Administer Popular Program

What do the Evanston Bahai's, the Savanna Food Coop, and Presidential Candidate Sargent Shriver have in common?



OPEN CAMPUS COORDINATOR DAN SHINER

They, along with forty-nine other groups and individuals, are all making use of Shimer College's unique "Open Campus" policy. Under the Open Campus policy, any group wishing to use Shimer facilities is permitted to do so without charge, except for services provided by the College.

For the record, the first group which used Shimer facilities under the new program was the Carroll County Historical Society, which held a slide show in the Karyn Kupcinet Playhouse February 1st of this year. The group making plans farthest in advance is a wedding scheduled for the Playhouse on August 22, 1976, one of the five weddings scheduled to take place on campus within the next six months.

Perhaps the most interesting result of the Open Campus policy was getting Sargent Shriver to come to Shimer College.

"It was just dropped in our lap," says fourth-year student Dan Shiner of Tennent, NJ, who, aided by first-year student Grace Lloyd, Chicago, IL, coordinates the O.C. program. "One day someone called up and asked me how much it would cost to rent the Karyn Kupcinet Playhouse for an evening. I explained it was free, and he asked if Sargent Shriver could possibly use it on March 13. As soon as I realized he was serious, I agreed."

The fifty-odd groups scheduled to use Shimer facilities comprise a total of almost 5,000 people. About 75%, or close to 4,000, come from within a twenty-mile radius of Shimer College. "Community service" is the motivating force of the program, and indications are that it is working: several groups have left entirely voluntary donations, and an editorial on the Open Campus program which appeared in the Freeport Journal-Standard of March 2 ended with "Shimer, we thank you for your innovative policy." As Ms. Lloyd says, "That kind of thanks makes it all worthwhile."



# First Spring Enrollment Growth

## New Students, Faculty Enhance Shimer Community

A four percent increase in Shimer's enrollment this spring semester reflects the new policies administered by Ron Goldblatt and his staff who have been involved in contacting prospective students. The Admissions counselors currently recruiting are all current and former students and meet the qualifications to generate interest and enthusiasm for the College among prospective students. The new class listed below

includes ten transfer students, ten early entrants, and six high school graduates, each bringing to the College their individual talents, interests, and expectations.

The total enrollment now stands at one hundred eighty-six students. The increase is significant in that past trends have always resulted in a drop in enrollment from the fall to the spring term.

**Student**  
George W. Beauchamp  
Ann L. Booth  
Kimberly Ann Conley  
Lisa Delaney  
Daniel Fraser  
Michael P. Geissal  
James T. Horan  
John Iandola, Jr.  
Gloria Jurgens  
Timothy Kaczocha  
Kieren A. Ladner  
Charles E. McKenzie  
James McKenzie  
LuAnne Matheson  
Audrea Maurer  
Victor J. Melfi, Jr.  
Joel I. Merainer  
Sonia Nelson  
Elizabeth Nibbio  
Scott Peltz  
Garcia Phelps  
Thomas S. Semrau  
David Shapiro  
Jennifer Snorf  
Michael R. Triplett  
Sarah Wintriss

**Parents**  
Mr. & Mrs. George E. Beauchamp  
Mrs. Margaret S. Booth  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas F. Conley  
Mr. Tom Delaney (Husband)  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Fraser  
Mrs. Mary Ann Geissal  
Mr. Robert J. Horan  
Mr. & Mrs. John Iandola, Sr.  
Mr. Jan J. Jurgens (Husband)  
Mr. Raymond P. Kaczocha  
Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Ladner  
Mrs. Annie L. McKenzie  
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. E. McKenzie  
Mr. & Mrs. D. S. Natoli  
Mr. William J. Maurer  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor J. Melfi, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert T. Bernet  
Mr. & Mrs. F. Burton Nelson  
Mr. & Mrs. N. A. Nibbio  
Mr. & Mrs. Seamen Peltz  
Mrs. Flora M. Phelps  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Semrau  
Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Shapiro  
Mrs. Mary T. Snaring  
Mrs. Mildred Triplett  
Mrs. Ann L. Wintriss

**Home Town**  
Greenbelt, MD  
Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada  
Dixon, IL  
Mt. Carroll, IL  
Joliet, IL  
Chicago, IL  
Mt. Prospect, IL  
Pearl City, IL  
Thomson, IL  
Chicago, IL  
Bellaire, TX  
Chicago, IL  
Chicago, IL  
Englishtown, NJ  
Sterling Heights, MI  
Stamford, CT  
Baldwin, NY  
Chicago, IL  
Barrington, IL  
Chicago, IL  
Philadelphia, PA  
Chicago, IL  
Glencoe, IL  
Springfield, OH  
Fairborn, OH  
Ithaca, NY



Two new faculty members have joined Shimer's staff this spring. Collette V. Michael, born and raised in France, joins the Humanities faculty to teach French. She has studied Philosophy and Romantic Languages at the University of Washington where she received her B.A. and an M.A. degree. Dr. Michael earned an additional M.A. in the History of Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she completed her doctoral work in French.

Michael T. Johnson, '71, has returned to Shimer to offer Photography instruction. Johnson, a professional photographer, lives with his wife, Patricia, and their baby girl in a rustic home they built near Timber Lake. He recently participated in a panel discussion of "Art and the Land" at the Nuclear Power Conference held at Shimer in February.



# Correspondence Seminars

## Basic Studies Comp. - Quo Animo?

*Editor's Note: The following statement was prepared for the Bulletin by Peder Hamm, a two-year veteran of the Social Sciences faculty. The questions he raises are relevant to a facet of the Shimer curriculum since the early 50's: Comprehensive Examinations. The issue is currently receiving a great deal of attention on campus as students and faculty debate the relative value of comps to the overall Shimer experience.*

*It is interesting to note that one of the two readings for the 1976 Basic Studies Comp. was Robert Pirsig's Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance (the other was The Study of Man by Michael Polyani). Under consideration was the nature of quality and teleological study. Many readers of the September Bulletin will remember that the last correspondence seminar, initiated by Richard Sakurai, was based on Pirsig's book and dealt with the question of quality.*

*Hamm's statement need not be of interest only to those of the "era of comprehensives." It should provide each reader with some background into current campus concerns and the level at which the focus is held.*

### The Basic Studies Comprehensive Examination — Quo Animo?

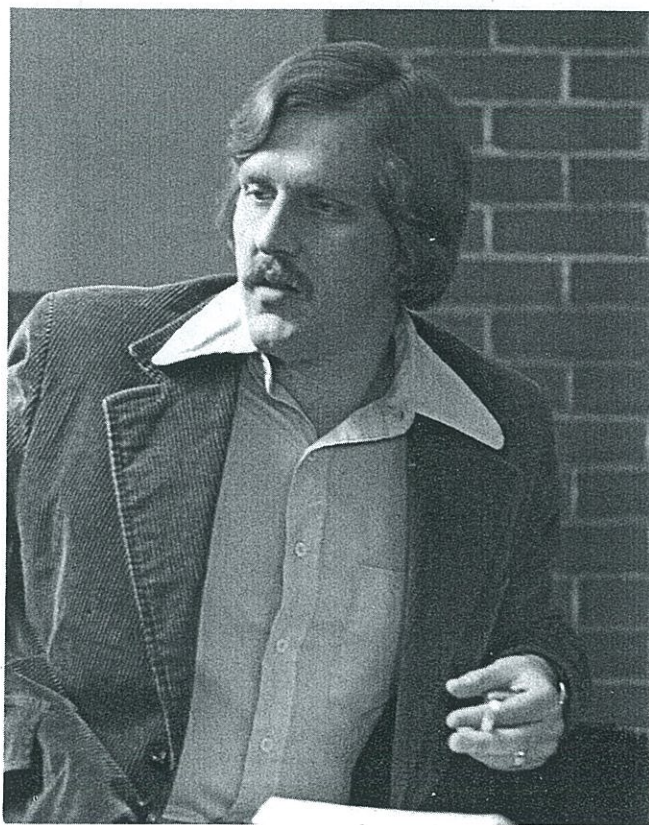
The mark of interrogation following the Latin in the heading demands emphasis: I intend to do no more than raise a question and hopefully stimulate its exploration. The question is, what is the spirit, the guiding intention of the Basic Studies Comprehensive? My encounter with this question became a necessity when, in this second year of my residence as a Shimer faculty member, I was informed that I was to serve as Chairman of the BSC. After allowing time for the shock waves of consternation to abate, I turned to the college catalog in search of guidelines concerning the comprehensive. There I discovered that

the purpose of the Basic Studies Comprehensive Examination is to evaluate the student's mastery of the intellectual skills and concepts to which he has been introduced in the basic courses (Humanities 1 and 2, Mathematics 1, Natural Sciences 1, Social Sciences 1 and 2). The comprehensive confronts the student with one or more problems of a scope not previously dealt with in these courses. The problems may concern art, natural or social phenomena, or scholarly works in the humanities, natural sciences, or social sciences. The questions posed on the Comprehensive Examination are designed to test logical, analytical, and communicative skills. Grading is based on the extent to which the student has actively encountered the materials, has recognized various parts and their interrelations, and has presented his interpretations with skill and coherence.

So there it was, forthrightly stated in black and white — a concept committed to print. Why then did my confusion only grow more pronounced upon a careful rereading of the catalog criteria? Roughly, I believe the source of my confusion lay in the fact that I found myself faced with a gestalt of perceptual uncertainty. While it was clear that my newly assigned role called upon me, with the cooperation of my fellow committee members, to select the reading material, formulate the appropriate questions, and

evaluate the student performance, there seemed to be no obvious indications of how this ought to be done.

At this point I began my search for clarification. I sought out faculty who had served on previous BSC committees or who had been around long enough to have mulled over this phenomenon at some length and to have observed the annual waves of student elation and/or indignation generated by their encounter with this rite of passage. I spoke with students who had already taken the comp, and with those preparing to run this gauntlet. I came away from this informal investigation with the impression that my initial sense of perceptual uncertainty was writ large in the general Shimer population, both faculty and students. Mentions of "integration," "synthesis," "unity," and so forth



PEDER HAMM

were frequent. Yet there seemed no agreement as to what these and other catchwords implied. Example: ought the comp to be structured so as to integrate the basic skills and concepts acquired in the courses? If so, ought the questions to be formulated along the lines of vertical integration within a given area, or ought the integration to be horizontal as well, cutting across each of the areas involved? So it went; multiple questions, mixed and often contradictory responses, resulting in a general aura of confusion, ambiguity and uncertainty.

Yet the task remained — choose the readings, generate prospectus, formulate appropriate questions, administer such to the students, and evaluate the results. The BSC committee's response to these requirements is now part of Shimer history. We collectively put together the elements necessary for offering the comp, each of us drawing upon our own



perceptual fields, each of us having assimilated diverse criteria into a finished product. A process not unlike those gone through in past years, I suspect — a process begun in the bygone days of Analysis, Logic and Rhetoric and carried through the Basic Studies Comp era. Was our particular endeavor successful? Imagine the range of responses to that question. Grades will be gotten out, students will cheer, curse, breathe a sigh of relief. . . . The faculty will be made aware of some of these reactions, via formal and informal feedback mechanisms. Yet much more will remain unknown and perhaps unarticulated. This year's BSC will join the ranks of those past, and next year's committee will find itself faced with this legacy and with the task of putting together its contribution.

On to the point of this brief personal reaction to the BSC. I intended only to raise a question. What is, and what ought to be the spirit of the Basic Studies Comprehensive? Necessity forced me to face this question. As Shimer alumni, circumstances at one time precipitated your responses as well. Might you resurrect your initial reactions to this question? Has the passing of time altered your views? Why not create a dialogue on the BSC that extends to you as alumni, rather than limiting the field to on-campus faculty and students only? Shout your praises, vent your wrath, reveal your indifference! If nothing else, you will spawn a wider field of uncertainty for the next BSC committee. My suspicion is that your reactions will contribute much beyond this "if nothing else," for you have passed through the immediate emotional-situational

realm that of necessity serves as the seedbed of initial reactions to the BSC. What hath time wrought — changed perceptions, solidified opinions, fading recollections? Let us know, if you would.

Peder Hamm  
retired BSC committee chairman,  
active faculty member in the Social Sciences

Included in this issue of the *Bulletin* is an Alumni Questionnaire. Its purpose is explained in the cover letter from Dr. Conant. In order for us to benefit from the results of such a questionnaire we need a high response rate. For this reason we will be mailing the questionnaire to all alumni in the next few weeks. Separate copies will be sent for husband and wife when both are known to be Shimer alumni. A prompt return of the questionnaire from the *Bulletin* will help us greatly by cutting our costs for the subsequent mailing.

The questionnaire has been inserted so that it can be easily removed, filled out, folded, and returned to the Alumni Office postage paid. We would like to thank you in advance for your time and consideration in this matter. — Ed.

## Shimer Considers Drama School Affiliation

In late November 1975, efforts were begun by the Shimer administration toward an affiliation with the Goodman School of Drama, Chicago. Goodman, the only professional theater school in the midwest, is a highly regarded institution which has operated as part of the Art Institute of Chicago. The president of the Art Institute, Larry Chalmers, recently informed the School that financial support will terminate after the fiscal year 1977.

Dean Charles McGaw of Goodman seeks an affiliation with an institution of higher education in order to secure the continued existence of the school. The Consortium of Chicago Colleges and Universities, an organization which promotes interinstitutional sharing of resources among private and public educational facilities, and Shimer College are working on a proposal to maintain the existence of Goodman's professional training program. The Art Institute recently declined to transfer the sponsorship of Goodman to Shimer and the Consortium. A committee which includes representatives from Shimer, the Consortium, and concerned citizens in the Chicago area are working with foundations and governmental groups, including the City of Chicago to secure sources of funds, and a location for the graduate program and the Children's Theatre in Chicago. The committee regards Goodman as an irreplaceable cultural and educational resource for Chicago and for the Midwest. The city government considers the Children's Theatre to be an invaluable asset, worthy of their support.

Initially the proposal, if approved, would become effective in the Fall 1976. Recently the conjectured

program's beginning has been delayed until Fall 1977 in order to allow additional time to recruit students.

The proposed affiliation has been the subject of considerable controversy at Shimer. At two meetings held to clarify and discuss the proposal, many students voiced their opposition on the basis that the affiliation could compromise and thus endanger Shimer's ideals. Shimer, whose chief attraction has been an innovative approach to liberal arts, would draw students for whom professional training has the highest priority. To this, it was argued that training in a creative profession need not be at disparate purposes with the goals of a liberal education. The entire Shimer-Goodman episode has generated a lot of conflict, leading people to re-assess the ideals of Shimer and re-define their own motives and aspirations for being here.

Just prior to publication of the *Bulletin* the Art Institute of Chicago announced that it had decided to phase out all Goodman undergraduate operations and proceed with plans for continuation of the graduate program through the consortium, thus precluding any further negotiations with Shimer. It has been speculated that the amount of attention and creative thought put into proposals to save that institution contributed to the partial reversal.

Although Shimer will no longer benefit from the potential affiliation, it can take pride in having helped with the preservation of still another educational institution. — Ed.



# Student Services Leave Outdated Role Behind

*Sandy Sakurai has worked for the College for over two years. First she spent a year and a half as Registrar. She then added to her responsibilities that of personal counselor. In January she turned her duties as Registrar over to Karen Zink and has taken full time responsibilities in the newly created Student Services Office. As Director of Student Services she oversees various facets of student life which were previously autonomous or without definite leadership.*

*The following article is her personal statement of the makeup and function of the Student Services Office. Sandy regularly seeks outside advice and offers of help in this critical area. Feel free to contact her at the College with suggestions.*

The role of Student Services on campus is multi-faceted. We are student advocates, facilitators, and educators. Fortunately, we are beyond the era of being parent substitutes, judges and jury. This allows us to be real people, the students to be open and unthreatened and for there to be a sense of working together to make life outside of class as satisfying as it is inside.

The Student Services staff includes: Jean Bess, Dean of Students; Karen Zink, Registrar and Financial Aid Officer; Dorothy Hurning, Nurse; Gayle Koch, J Conant, David Shiner, Student Services Interns; and thirteen dorm staff members.

Almost every area of campus life is being examined and evaluated. Of top concern is finding ways to provide adequate psychological counseling and career counseling and placement. We need to be able to provide more transportation, on and off campus activities and extended health service. These are age old problems that have been particularly intense during the past few years due to the small number of students on campus. The restricted social life added to the great academic demands has produced an educational experience too intense for many.

Dean Bess has been concentrating her efforts toward upgrading the dorm staff training procedure. The staff meets Sunday evenings at her house to discuss common experiences and problems. She took several to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville for an overnight visit. Their program, being highly organized, well thought out and professionally staffed, offered a stimulating contrast. Currently discussions are underway here regarding staff selection and training.

Dorm councils are being formed after a lapse of several semesters. We will be meeting to examine our present assumptions that are governing the way we live together. From there we will be examining civil law vs criminal law and taking a look at the judicial code we have inherited from past Shimer generations. The rules as now written will be reviewed to determine their origins and rationale and their current status.

The students are responsive and responsible and I sense a pervasive optimism and good will. It seems that this will be a productive semester.



Three first-year students form the core of the season opener at the Karyn Kupcinec Playhouse this spring. Ken Frandsen, LaGrange, IL, (above left) is the director of the one-act by Woody Allen, "GOD" (a play). The leading roles Diabetes and Hepatitis are portrayed by Joe Starzyk, Chicopee, MA (above center) and Dan Forrest, Dolton, IL (above right) respectively. The production is believed to be the first public performance of "GOD" (a play).

## Students Change Officers

New officers were recently elected by the Student Government for the spring semester. Tony Bennie, Haddon Heights, NJ was elected Vice-Chairperson and Seth Grosshandler, Highland Park, IL was chosen Treasurer. Both are first-year students. In addition, Julie Jenkins, Bolton, MA was re-elected Secretary with Michael Ladenson, Haverstown, PA continuing as Parliamentarian. They are second-year students.

Last fall the student body ratified a new constitution which, among other things, established the new office of Student Body President. Elected by the entire student body, this position replaces the Chairman of Student Government who was elected by that body alone. Catherine Kimmel, second-year student from Middlebury, CT was elected as the first Student Body President. Reflecting on the new post, she commented, "Now we have a greater possibility to communicate with Metcalf (the administration) and to influence the direction and continuance of the institution."

Ms. Kimmel, also a member of the dorm staff, went on to explain that, "Student Government has been pretty much inactive and transitory in the past. I'd like to make it a more cohesive body with greater representation than has existed."

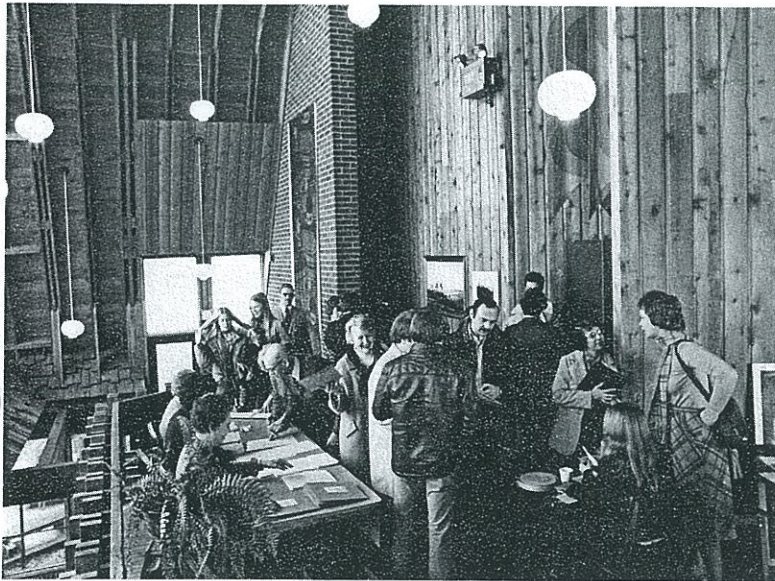
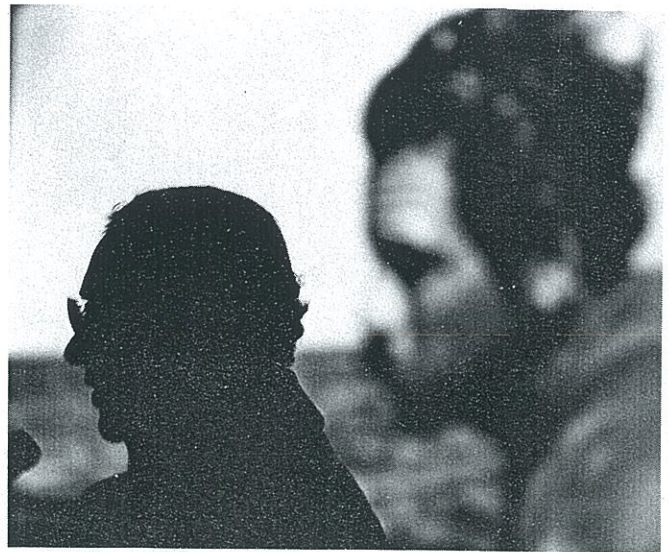


# Shimer Hosts Major Conference

On February 20 and 21 Shimer College hosted a conference entitled "People and Nuclear Power: Human Beings, the Land, Life and Nuclear Energy." The seminar, intended to bring together the humanist and the technologist in one forum, was funded by a \$10,500 grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. Included in this is a fourteen week course being offered by Shimer faculty to further explore the issue.

Speakers included representatives of citizen action groups, power companies, government regulatory agencies, and local artists and poets. The keynote address, "Powerful Ideas," was delivered by Archie Lieberman (right), one of the outstanding living American photographers. His 1974 book *Farm Boy* is considered a classic record of life on a Midwestern farm.

The two-day conference, considered a success by those in attendance, was based in the Karyn Kupcinet Playhouse (below) with some workshops held around the campus as well.



## Editor's Note:

The following note came across President Conant's desk from Archie Lieberman, keynote speaker for the two-day Nuclear Power Conference held at Shimer on February 20 and 21.

*Dear Ralph:*

*We found the conference on nuclear energy exciting, invigorating, challenging, enlightening. We got snowed in at Schapville on Saturday and were miserable that we could not make the second day appearance.*

*There was much to digest — food and thought — and we are still talking about things.*

*I thought that the college did a fine thing in assembling such a confrontation. It occurred to me as a result that when the humanist bares his beliefs it makes it easier for the engineer to reveal his humanity.*

*Thank you for inviting us. Esther joins me in wishing you and Audrey warm regards.*

*Cordially,  
Archie Lieberman*

## Alumni Fund Compared With Others

The Alumni Fund Drive, under the direction of Alice Bro Racher, '41, stands at \$27,893 for the 1975-76 fiscal year. This is an increase over last year's giving, yet we are faced with the severe problem of only a few alumni giving. By the end of February a total of 245 alumni had given to the fund, or 7.65% of all Shimer alumni. The average gift was \$114. In years past the

percentage of alumni giving has been as high as 20% and averaged around 15% during the 60's.

The following chart shows where Shimer's alumni stand in relation to a number of prestigious colleges and universities in the United States as well as the national average. The figures (other than Shimer's) are taken from an article in *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 11, 1976:

INSTITUTION	ALUMNI GIVING RATE	AVERAGE ALUMNI GIFT
Dartmouth	58 %	\$179
Princeton	57 %	\$146
Yale	41 %	\$279
Harvard	35 %	\$228
U.S. Average	18 %	—
Shimer	7.65%	\$114

In order for Shimer's alumni to reach our goal of \$100,000 by the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 1976) an additional 633 individuals would have to donate the average gift of \$114 to bring the final alumni giving rate to 27%; above the national average, but well

below the other colleges listed.

Although many Shimer alumni are not able to make such a gift, many others may be in a position to double or even quadruple this figure.



# Notes From Friends

Dear Sir:

I have not met Dr. Conant nor you. During the regime of William Parker McKee and his wife, Florence Turney McKee, I was both a student and an alum (feminine) at a finishing school for girls, to teach them the fundamentals of real education and the graces marking a true lady.

When I matriculated at Shimer, it was still known as Frances Shimer Academy, and William Parker McKee was known as Dean McKee. Later, it became Frances Shimer School when it added 2 years of College work. Finally, it became Shimer College as it is now.

A more detailed account of Shimer as I have known it, has been prepared for Jon Whitney for a Bicentennial edition of the Carroll County Review. As president of the local alumnae society, I had the honor of sitting at the table with the McKees at the farewell for them when Mr. McKee's health failed and they moved to Urbana, Ill.; also, I corresponded with Mrs. McKee while they lived at 603 Green St., Urbana.

Likewise, when Sawyer House was dedicated and I visited with Winona Branch Sawyer in the living room of Sawyer House. She told me and my daughter, Ellen, that the stained glass window at the head of the stairs came from the dining room of her home in Lincoln, Nebraska. This home had been dismantled and an apartment house built in its place. She also said "Somewhere around is a pair of etched front doors from that home but they haven't seen fit to use them." Her final address at Lincoln was *The Orlo Apartment A*.

Dr. Shailer Matthews had been the Commencement speaker that morning. He had been an overnight guest at Sawyer House. When he came downstairs to leave, Mrs. Sawyer arose to say good-bye to him. She told him she had not approved of something he had said that morning. His reply: "Sometimes you have to salt it for them" (the students).

At my own graduation, Dr. Nathaniel Butler was the speaker. As he shook hands with each graduate, he said "you should be both glad and sorry to be leaving Shimer." We thought it rather silly at the time, but later I decided he was making a psychological study of the class reactions to his remark.

Commencement time, in my day, usually involved 4 days — Baccalaureate, sermon in Metcalf Chapel, Sunday P.M. with a march led by a marshal and two assistants, the speaker, Dean and Mrs. McKee, faculty in caps and gowns. College sophomores also wore caps and gowns. Monday was class day for the graduates. A program in the chapel often brought take-offs on various class members. I was "keeping steady company" with my present husband. So, I was said to believe in being perfectly frank (Franke) about everything. Tuesday usually ended with a picnic supper for everyone on the lawn of the Quad near the kitchen. Wednesday night the graduates and student body formed to march in the lower floor of Metcalf and came into the auditorium from the rear. The speaker usually came in the rear door at the back of the platform with Dean McKee who would introduce him.

Later, much of this formality was dispensed with and graduation was a simple one afternoon occasion on the lawn of the Quad.

Sincerely,  
Iona Bickelhaupt Francke, '12

Gentlemen:

My son, Charles Fleck, '61, attended Shimer a short time before transferring to Northwestern, but we can never forget the good influence Shimer had on him. He is presently a Republican State Representative and a successful lawyer. Therefore my contribution.

Charles J. Fleck

Congratulations to all! We have been following closely the events of the last few years and months.

We have recently moved to Nashville where George has been hired as Director of Human Resource Management by Hospital Corporation of America, an organization with dreams and commitments very close to those of the Shimer community.

Cynthia has found fellowship in her service to the Lord, and Jennifer (now 9), Robert (now 6), and Melissa Ruth (now 8 months) all are happy, healthy and enjoying the South.

Keep up the good work and please ask others to stop in to see us if they come through Nashville.

George and Cynthia Weaver Russell, AB '68  
330 Jocelyn Hollow Circle  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Gentlemen:

Philanthropists we are not but we offer this modest gift to acknowledge the efforts of others to continue the services of your college.

It is welcome reading to find those who believe in self-help. Best wishes in your efforts.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clapper  
Altoona, Pennsylvania

Editor's Note:

Enclosed with this note was a copy of an editorial from the *Altoona Mirror* which reflected on the vicissitudes of recent years at Shimer and the upturn in finances of late. Noting the recent student gleaning effort, the editorial ended with the statement that, "A lesson has been well learned."

Dear President Conant:

Enclosed is a check to add to your alumni fund in honor of your upcoming inauguration. It comes with my best wishes to you as President of Shimer and to its future.

The "old girls" in the Washington area are still hoping to come up with a good fund raising in the future.

Good Luck and Congratulations  
Beverly Ericson Mandil, '42

Dear Tim:

The new Shimer College Bulletin is beautiful but I do take exception to Danny Shiner's remarks that previous ones were used for lining bird cages and wrapping dead fish. Although they may have failed in the literary sense in the past they did contain campus news and happenings of former students and faculty in which we older alums are always interested. I do hope that you won't eliminate this part of the Bulletin.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the inauguration of President Conant and with the enthusiasm and plans he has coupled with the cooperation of the faculty and students there's every reason to be assured that Shimer will continue to grow academically and in numbers of students.

Donna Pinnell Gabriel, '42

Dear Don:

I was very happy to get your note. I often think of Shimer, and I have only good memories of both it and you. I envy Ron Goldblatt. I've often wished that I



could figure out a way to make a living in Mt. Carroll. Maybe I will yet.

As you know, I've been involved in one aspect or another of aids for medical and anatomical education since I graduated, and most recently in films. Before I graduated I would have never believed that I would ever be involved in business, or live in either Houston or Hollywood.

It has been an interesting experience, in some respects good and in some respects not so good. I think, though, that it has given me a good deal which can't be found in an academic environment.

I miss being in school, though, so I am thinking of returning. One of the anatomists for whom I've worked vowed he could get me into any medical school in the country, and I'm thinking of calling his bluff, although it will take a few chemistry and biology courses to prepare me.

Involvement in films has given an appreciation of the almost organic organization involved in transforming a simple idea into a completed film, but there is very little beyond that which is enjoyable. "Art" plays its part, but the business aspect outweighs both art and knowledge. It has little respect for things which cannot be transformed into accountant's figures. In short, business is a little cold-blooded for my taste.

This period has given me a feeling for and an appreciation of my own practical ability, which I did not have when I left Shimer. Because Shimer's educational approach is so unflinchingly intellectual this appreciation was not in Shimer to give, but this lack is more than made up for by the ability to adapt which it gave me. That adaptability is in fact probably due to that impracticality?

I'm afraid I have to return to the wonders of endochondral ossification now. Give my regards to all my friends there.

Regards

Paul G. Jordan, AB '72

#### Editor's Note:

This note was sent to faculty member Don Moon in response to his request for further background information from recent graduates to apply to the Admissions effort. Along similar lines as the note in the last issue from Gaye Gilbert Benson, we hope to be able to include at least one expanded account of post-Shimer experiences from an alum in each issue.

To whom it may concern (that means everyone):

Still another portion of my contribution to Shimer College—incommensurable with all that it has given me.

Marcia Zdun, AB '75

I've been meaning to send in a donation (to be used where most needed) for months. Our third child, Adam, was born October 25th, and life is finally beginning to return to normal.

All of you — staff, students and alums — are doing an impressive job in trying to maintain the viability of Shimer. I wish I could send you some students from Colorado. It will still be quite some time before my own children are ready!

With fond thoughts —

Myrna Spilky Poticha, '65

We enjoy receiving the "Bulletin." Editor Tim Cole and his staff are to be congratulated for putting together an informative, professional and thoroughly readable publication.

Keep up the good work,  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald D. Chapin  
Parents

## Shimer For Sale

The following items are available through the Shimer College Bookstore. They are imprinted with the College name and seal. The prices listed are subject to change. For further information on mail orders please write:

Eva Nicola, Bookstore Manager

Shimer College

Mount Carroll, IL 61053

Sweatshirts — white, blue, maroon (S, M, L, XL)* ..	\$ 6.95 - \$ 7.95
T-Shirts — white, blue, grey (S, M, L, XL)* .....	3.95 - 4.10
Softball Jerseys — white and maroon (S, M, L, XL) ...	5.45
Nylon Windbreakers — varied colors .....	10.50
Plaques .....	3.00
Mugs .....	1.95
Keys, Charms, Rings .....	1.00 - 3.95
Decals .....	.10

\*Also available in children's sizes S, M, L.

Dear People at Shimer:

Thank you so much for your gifts while I was a student, and for your gifts now as an alumnus.

I wish that I could help financially more, to a most worthy cause.

My only year at Shimer, '71-'72, was among the greatest moments in my life. I often still consider Shimer my second home, maybe even my first.

I hope to visit again, plus if there is any way that I can help Shimer, I will do all that I can. For Shimer College is reality! It's a place for growing physically, mentally and spiritually. And I love all that you are doing. Perhaps in the near future, I can visit Shimer again, and pray for its guidance in such a struggling environment we as earthlings live. Thank you so much.

Love,

Anthony Wickowsky, '72

Editor's Note:

The following note was sent to Alice Bro Racher, '41, Alumni Fund Drive Chairperson and College Trustee, who had written to the Alumnae from the pre-1950 era. (President Ralph Conant is distantly related to other Conants in the academic world.)

Dear Alice Bro Racher, '41:

Even though I cannot share your "Memories of Our School" as a 1941 graduate, and you can hardly share mine as a 1915 graduate, we both have, however, I am sure, most pleasant and interesting memories of the "Francis Shimer Academy" in Mount Carroll. I had the great pleasure to have Beth Hostetter as a personal friend. That is truly one of my fondest memories, but there are many others.

I am sorry I was unable to get this gift to you for the Shimer Alumni Drive before November 10th and the inauguration of Dr. Conant. I am sure the door is still open to receive a bit of a contribution.

I am wondering: is Dr. Ralph Conant the son of the Professor Conant I knew at the University of Chicago?

I hope your Fund drive was a great success.

Most Sincerely,

L. Dell Henry, M.D., '15